

Final
SC Nominal
(3)

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 6, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JAMES A. BAKER III

FROM:

FRED F. FIELDING

SUBJECT:

Supreme Court Nomination -- Game Plan

The announcement should be made as soon as possible.

- Avoids risk of further leaks, which deprive President of "announcement" momentum.
- Initial leakage has probably surfaced all potential problems (pro-lifers, etc.).
- Permits us to commence FBI immediately = earlier possible date for confirmation hearing (optimum would be before recess).
- Downside; if confirmation held over, opponents can muster forces; however, if name leaks out, this will occur in any event.

President should personally make the announcement.

- Historic event.
- Most important appointee of Administration.

Announcement plan.

- President in briefing room.
- Brief statement.
- No questions.
- Appointee should not be present - too difficult to get to Washington unnoticed.
- White House press aide should be present with appointee.

Prior notification.

- Appointee should be called by President - advised of selection (if not already done).
- Appointee should be called by staff - advised of announcement time; arrival of press aide; requested to complete all requisite forms (if not already done).

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Prior notification: 30 minutes before announcement.

- Chief Justice.
- ABA President or Chairman of Standing Committee on Federal Judiciary.
- Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee.

Materials to be prepared.

- Brief Presidential announcement.
- Press Office release and biography.

Pre-announcement press plan.

- Meeting with White House and Justice participants and press spokesmen to insure consistent responses (for a change).

Rationale for not seeking prior evaluation of ABA:

- No legal requirement; practice has varied with Administrations.
- Need to end speculation.
- Administration has carefully reviewed candidate's qualifications and is satisfied.
- We have invited ABA to provide its advisory views to Senate Judiciary Committee; we would expect this will be done in this instance as in the past; we encourage the views of all interested groups.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
August 13, 1981

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FEO51

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING *[Signature]*
SUBJECT: Nomination of Sandra Day O'Connor to
be an Associate Justice of the United
States Supreme Court

The Department of Justice and the Counsel's Office have completed their respective reviews of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's full field investigation and other data pertinent to the clearance of Judge O'Connor. Accordingly, I recommend that you sign the attached nomination.

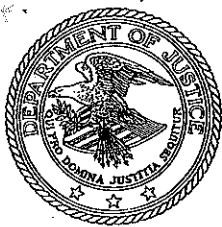
The Senate Judiciary Committee has scheduled confirmation hearings commencing September 9, 1981.

Attachment

Announced: 7/7/81

To Sec. of Senate: 8/19/81

NOTED
8/19/81



Office of the Attorney General

Washington, D. C. 20530

July 31, 1981

Dear Mr. President:

I have the honor to enclose a nomination in favor of Sandra Day O'Connor, of Arizona, to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States vice Potter Stewart, retired.

Judge O'Connor was born March 26, 1930 in El Paso, Texas, and was raised on a ranch in Eastern Arizona. She is married and has three children. She was graduated from Stanford University with Great Distinction in 1950, where she majored in economics. She then entered Stanford Law School, from which she graduated in 1952 as a member of the legal honorary society, the Order of the Coif. She also served as a member of the Board of Editors of the Stanford Law Review. She was admitted to the Bar for the State of California in 1952 and to the Bar for the State of Arizona in 1957.

She served as Deputy County Attorney for San Mateo County, California from 1952 to 1953; as a Civilian Attorney, Quartermaster Market Center, Frankfurt/Main, W. Germany from 1954 to 1957; was in the private practice of law in Maryvale, Arizona from 1958 to 1960; was an Assistant Attorney General, State of Arizona from 1965 to 1969; and was a State Senator, Arizona State Senate, from 1969 to 1975, where she served in 1973 and 1974 as Senate Majority Leader. She then served as a Judge on the Maricopa County Superior Court from 1975 to 1979. Since 1979, she has served as a Judge on the Arizona Court of Appeals. She has served in each of the foregoing capacities with great distinction.

Judge O'Connor bears an excellent reputation as to character and integrity, possesses judicial temperament, and is well qualified, I believe, to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

I recommend the nomination.

Respectfully,

The President
The White House

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

July 7, 1981

The President today announced his intention to nominate Judge Sandra Day O'Connor to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, filling the vacancy created by the resignation of Justice Potter Stewart. Judge O'Connor presently serves on the Arizona Court of Appeals. The President will forward to the Senate his nomination of Judge O'Connor upon completion of the required background check by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Judge O'Connor, age 51, earned both her undergraduate and law degrees at Stanford University. She received her B.A. magna cum laude in 1950, and her LL.B. with high honors in 1952. She was a member of the Board of Editors of the Stanford Law Review and a member of the Order of the Coif. Judge O'Connor was admitted to the Bar of the State of California in the year of her graduation and to the Bar of the State of Arizona in 1957.

Judge O'Connor practiced law in Phoenix, Arizona, for a number of years. She served as Assistant Attorney General of Arizona from 1965 to 1969 and served in the Arizona State Senate from 1969 to 1975.

In 1974, Judge O'Connor was elected to the Superior Court for Maricopa County, Arizona. She served on that court until she was appointed to the Arizona Court of Appeals in 1979.

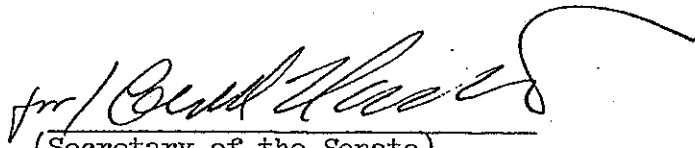
Judge O'Connor is married to John Hay O'Connor III. They have three children.

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August 19, 1981

Received from the White House a sealed envelope said
to contain nominations by the President for the following-
named persons:

Sandra Day O'Connor, of Arizona
Michael H. Newlin, of Maryland
Lt. Gen. William Rowland Richardson, USA


(Secretary of the Senate)

1:28 p.m.
(Time received)

SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR

Birth:	March 26, 1930	El Paso, Texas
Legal Residence:	Arizona	
Marital Status:	Married	John Jay O'Connor, III 3 children
Education:	1950 1952	Stanford University A.B. degree LL.B. degree
Bar:	1952 1957	California Arizona
Experience:	1952 - 1953	Deputy County Attorney San Mateo County, Ca.
	1954 - 1957	Civilian Attorney Quartermaster Market Center Frankfurt/Main, W. Germany
	1958 - 1960	Private practice Maryvale, Arizona
	1961 - 1964	Homemaker & Childcare
	1965 - 1969	Assistant Attorney General State of Arizona
	1969 - 1975	State Senator Arizona State Senate
	1975 - 1979	Judge Maricopa County Superior Court
	1979 - present	Judge Arizona Court of Appeals
Office:	101 W. Jefferson Phoenix, Arizona 85003 602 255-4828	
Home:	3651 E. Denton Lane Paradise Valley, Arizona 85253 602 955-6653	
Ethnic Group:	Caucasian	
Salary:	\$88,700	

The White House,

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To the
Senate of the United States.

I nominate Sandra Day O'Connor, of Arizona, to be

an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States,

vice Potter Stewart, retired.